

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 'N' Street – Main Auditorium
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Executive Director
Phone: (916) 654-0462

MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2008

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

- (a) The meeting was called to order Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at approximately 10:06 a.m. Al Montna, President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture presiding.
- (b) Welcoming remarks provided by Al Montna.
- (c) Pledge of Allegiance.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll Call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director

Present:

Al Montna	Karen Ross	Arlan Van Leeuwen
Ashley Boren	Kerry Tucker	Craig McNamara
Daniel Dooley	Luawanna Hallstrom	Adan Ortega, Jr.
Donald Bransford	David Wehner	

Absent:

Thomas Deardorff II	Marvin Meyers	Donald Valpredo
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(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 27, 2008

MOTION: Board member Dan Dooley moved to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Board member Craig McNamara seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Deputy Secretary George Deese provided a departmental update covering the following issues: state budget, 2007 California farm revenues, Light Brown Apple Moth, Bovine TB and Asian citrus psyllid. Deputy Secretary Deese then introduced an Asian citrus psyllid Public Service Announcement (PSA) available at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CDFAtoday>

Deputy Secretary Deese also informed the board that Secretary Kawamura was returning from a meeting of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and would be joining the meeting while in session.

(5) OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Equine Advisory Task Force

Executive Director Josh Eddy provided an update on the Equine Advisory Task Force – indicating that 10 out of 12 committee seats were filled.

MOTION: Executive Director Josh Eddy asked for a motion, on behalf of the Secretary, to seat Ross Jenkins to the committee. Board member Don Bransford moved to approve. Board member Luawanna Hallstrom seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(6) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

The Board had two separate panel presentations on water – focusing on the Delta.

FIRST PANEL: Delta Vision

The first panel focused on a presentation and discussion of the Delta Vision Strategic Plan.

Speakers included:

- Phil Isenberg, Chair, Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force
- Stuart Somach, Somach, Simmons & Dunn
- Tom Birmingham, General Manager, Westlands Water District

PUBLIC COMMENT FOLLOWING FIRST PANEL

Drew Brown, AgCel, thanked the board for addressing the structural problems related to agricultural and asked a question to the panel regarding urban water conservation.

SECOND PANEL: Pacific Institute

The second panel focused on a presentation and discussion of the Pacific Institute's recent report – "More with Less: Agricultural Water Conservation and Efficiency in California."

Speakers included:

- Juliet Christian-Smith, Sr. Research Associate, Pacific Institute
- Heather Cooley, Sr. Research Associate, Pacific Institute
- Dan Nelson, General Manager, San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority
- Thad Bettner, General Manager, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

PUBLIC COMMENT FOLLOWING SECOND PANEL

Mark Wilson, Wilson Farms and Vineyards, commented on agricultural water use percentage, developing more water supply and creating exemptions to existing laws.

Lloyd Fryer, Kern County Water Agency, asked a question to the panel regarding data within the State Water Plan and Pacific Institute report.

(7) AG VISION DISCUSSION

An update on the Ag Vision was provided by CDFA staff. Draft recommendations were provided to the board for discussion and comment.

ACTION: Ag Vision subcommittee to consider recommendations and timeline. The subcommittee will report to the board at its October 29, 2008 meeting

(8) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No Comments from the Public

(9) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:31 p.m.